JEW 3652



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Harald WOLF

Confirmation No.: 1142

Appln. No.: 10/539,941

Art Unit: 3652

Filed: June 17, 2005

Examiner: ADAMS, GREGORY W

For:

METHOD FOR TRANSPORTING BODYWORK PANELS OF A VEHICLE AND

CORRESPONDING TRANSPORT DEVICE

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.177

Customer No.: 30448

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited either by facsimile to 571-273-8300 or with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA

22313-1450 on August 18, 2006.

Reg. No. 56,15

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of any non-US documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of the International Search Report (ISR) and a German Examination Report dated November 10, 2003 issued in the corresponding applications are provided herewith.

- 1. DE 198 50 964 A1 (has English-language equivalent application US 2002/0130013 A1)
- 2. DE 198 26 270 A1 (English abstract provided)

{WP327690;1}

Application No: 10/539,941
Information Disclosure Statement

Attorney Docket No: 3926.177

- 3. WO 90/00146 A1 (has English abstract)
- 4. DE 1 096 283 C
- 5. DE 33 02 755 C1 (English abstract provided)

Documents 1-3 were cited in the ISR. Documents 1 and 4-5 were cited in the German Examination Report dated November 10, 2003. Document 1 was also mentioned in the background of the specification of the instant application.

No English translation or abstract for document 4 is readily available. The Examiner stated in German Examination Report dated November 10, 2003 that document 4 (DE 1 096 283 C) discloses transporting a stack of rigid and thin plates with an endless conveyor to a discharge area where the plates are separated (see claim 1, Figs. 1, 6, 10). A person skilled in the art would easily think about using this for conveying and handling metal sheets and sheet metal stack and alternatively for delivering the complete stack – manually or automatically – to the loading point of the conveyor. This satisfies Applicant's obligation of providing brief explanation of relevancy of non-English document.

Since the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action, no statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner

and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Date: August 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Yonghong Chen

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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/539,941			
Filing Date	06/17/2005			
First Named Inventor	Harald WOLF			
Art Unit	3652			
Examiner Name	ADAMS, GREGORY W			
Attorney Docket Number	3926 177			

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. The reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. The reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Included ST.16 if possible. The patent document is a proper or the patent document in the patent docume Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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